

## NEGRO SLEUTHS *California* GIVEN PRAISE *Case* FOR GOOD WORK

Captain of detectives Bradley of Newton Division highly complimented Lieutenants of Detectives Broady and Conway for so quickly bringing about what appears to be the solution of the Mozelle Taylor murder mystery.

*3-16-34*  
Moving swiftly the morning following the killing, unparalleled for brutality, the sleuths had investigated two other men but all the while had Alfred Hurd, 28 of 641 East 45th Street under surveillance. Eliminating the first two suspects they formally charged Hurd with the crime resulting in his being held for appearance in Superior Court, April 10th, as was related in the California Eagle last week. Blood stains on the inside of his coat sleeve tested by the Department chemists were proven to be human blood.

A month ago a five-year gun murder mystery was solved when an escaped gunman was trailed to Fall River Cross, by Broady and Conway.

# NEGRO NAMED TO DENVER POLICE FORCE

John Alexander Appointed  
To Patrol Five Points

District

By Mrs. Ethel R. Adams

DENVER.—John L. Alexander, a highly respected citizen here, was appointed as special police officer over the Five Points district last week. He is the first Negro to receive such an assignment.

Although Negroes have been members of the police force before, this is the first time that the Five Points district has had a Negro officer. Alexander is the only Negro on the force at the present time.

Mr. Alexander was chosen by the business men of Five Points and was appointed by the city authorities.

Mr. Alexander has lived in Denver for 17 years. He was the first and only Negro to serve as head storeman at the Denver national bank, holding that position for five years.

For many years he was a successful owner and operator of a confectionary and shining parlor in the lobby of the Alamo hotel.

The new police officer is an active member of the New Hope Baptist church. He is a member of the Mountain lodge, No. 39, Order of Elks. Mr. Alexander is a Spanish war veteran and was a non-commissioned officer in the Twenty-third Kansas volunteer unit.

He is a native of Little Rock, and lived for three years in California.

George Lewis, Denver  
Patrolman, to Retire  
After 27 Years' Work

DENVER.—George W. Lewis, 2849 High street, who has been on the Denver police force since 1907, will be retired September 15 after 27 years of service. Mr. Lewis will be 60 years old September 14.

Mr. Lewis is the last of several Negro officers in the police department. His retirement has been approved by Carl S. Milliken, manager of safety, and Albert T. Clark, chief of police.

# Fire-Eaters Use Old Apparatus To Fight City's Modern Blazes

## Association to Seek New Equipment from Congress for Unit Which Has Stellar Record for Rescues and Courage

The story of the rise of Engine Company No. 4 from a baby unit, 14 years ago, to its present status as one of the leading companies of fire-eaters in the District stands out as a record of courage and fire-fighting ability.

The unit, including 17 men, is now housed in an antiquated structure "behind the railroad tracks" with aged and inadequate equipment. For sometime, the Southwest Civic Association has been waging a fight to secure a new fire house and new equipment for the colored firemen.

One of the most energetic leaders in the effort to have the inferior housing and inadequate equipment replaced is Dr. George L. Johnson, chairman of the committee on public service of the Southwest Association. Dr. Johnson is now mustering his forces to carry the fight to Congress to obtain modern equipment for No. 4 Fire Company.

Stellar and distinguished roles played by the unit in many of the city's large fires, according to information compiled by Dr. Johnson, are related in the following accounts.

### 13 Lives Saved

Thirteen lives were saved by members of the company, in January 1922, at the Knickerbocker Theatre disaster, at Eighteenth and Columbia Road, Northwest. One was a young man who was rescued by Sergeant J. F. Mills. The young man later became a cadet at West Point and is now an officer in the regular army. Each year when he returns to the city, he pays a visit to No. 4 and expresses his gratitude to Sergeant Mills and the company.

### Battle Way to Safety

At the five-alarm fire among the temporary government buildings at Twenty-first and B Streets, Northwest, in July 1930, it was reported over the radio that the entire No. 4 company had been trapped within the confines of the fire. For some time it was feared that all had been lost, however, they val-

antly fought their way out to safety.

Stationed on the roof right over the fire, No. 4 played an important part in extinguishment of the fire which demolished the executive offices of the White House on December 24, 1929. A few days later, on January 3, 1930, the unit was the second company on the scene at the five-alarm fire which broke out in the south wing of the United States Capitol.

### Mask Frozen to Face

At the \$200,000 water front fire of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company, Seventh Street Wharves, in which the offices, dock, and Steamer Midland were almost completely destroyed while the thermometer hovered around 15 degrees, No. 4 Company was the first of 15 other units on the scene. They maintained their lines in front position in fighting the stubborn fire until it was de-

## FIRE-EATERS USE OLD APPARATUS

(Continued from page 1)

clared out. One of the firemen had his mask frozen to his face in this fire.

When the steeple and roof of St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Sixth Street, Southwest, burned, in February 1929, the unit was the first to arrive and the last to leave. The priest made a personal visit to the firehouse and commended the men upon their courage and untiring services.

### Makes Difficult Rescue

Captain J. E. Keyes, then a lieutenant, rendered distinguished service at the National Hotel fire, Eighth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, October 7, 1931, in which a woman was burned, when he rescued one of the male guests from the fourth floor

of the building.

At the fire of the James F. Oyster Company, Ninth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, the property of the then Commissioner Oyster, Lieutenant Keyes again saved the life of a man on the fourth floor. Because the stairs were a mass of flames, Keyes was forced to struggle down the ladders with the body of the man who had been overcome with smoke.

Private J. W. Stevens received a Bravery Ribbon from the Fire Department for saving the life of an elderly woman on C Street, Southwest.

Among other large fires in which No. 4 has rendered meritorious service to citizens were those at the following premises: Sharon Dairy, B Street, Southwest; Rudolph and West Hardware Store, 1400 New York Avenue, Northwest; Johnson and Wimsatt Lumber Yard, Water Street, Southwest; R. P. Andrews Paper Company, Southwest; American Dairy Supply Company, Canal Street, Southwest.

Capital City Theatre, Eleventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest; Victoria Apartments, Fourteenth and Belmont Streets; Hub Warehouse, North Capitol and L Streets, Northwest; Navy Yard; Army War College and Arsenal; Kann's Warehouse, Eighth and D Streets, Northwest; F. G. Nee Furniture Store, Seventh and H Streets, Northwest; Bolling Aviation Field, Anacostia; Church Lumber Yard, Southwest; Potomac Electric Power Plant, First and V Streets, Southwest; Mueller Candy Store, Third Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest; Shyrock Lumber Yard, South Capitol Street, Southwest; Galliguer Lumber Company, Georgetown.

### Other Achievements

In 1928, Lieutenant Keyes made an average of 83.03 in an examination for elevation to captain, making the highest average among 44 lieutenants in the department who took the examination.

Private G. J. O'Brien stood head of his class of 18 at the Fire Department Training School, in 1929.

In the Annual Firemen's Labor Day Parade, No. 4 has won two first prizes, two second, and three third for the most beautifully decorated float. In 1930, their float, "Cleopatra and Mark Anthony," won first, and in 1932, their float, "Judgment of Solomon," won first prize of the Randolph trophy and a cash prize of \$50.

During the stay of the Hunger Marchers in Washington, 1932, the

entire unit was mustered into service as special policemen and assigned to posts near their engine house in Southwest Washington. During the whole time the marchers were here, the fire-fighters worked without rest.

## Washington, D. C. Gets Negro Deputy Marshal

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(CNS)—Henry H. Neely has been appointed a deputy United States Marshal on the staff of the John B. Colpoys, the new Democratic United States Marshal.

## AWARDS IN POLICE SCHOOL GRANTED TWO NEGROES

### Headquarters Detective and Harbor Precinct Officer Among 59 Recipients

Two Negroes were in the class of 59, members of the Metropolitan Police Department, which was awarded certificates in the course in procedure and evidence at Columbus University, Monday night. It was the first group to be awarded the certificates in the new and unique police school of criminology fashioned after the course used at the famous Scotland Yard.

Sheridan Jones and Daniel D. Pittman are the colored men who were in the class along with a police captain, six lieutenants and three members of the Women's Bureau. Jones is attached to the Harbor Precinct. Pittman is a detective sergeant on the clothing squad at Police Headquarters.

The purpose of the course was to instruct the students, selected from the "most outstanding members of the Metropolitan Police Department," in collection of proper evidence to present courts, and in personal deportment.

According to officials in charge of the Liaison Office at Headquarters, the school will be continued next year. A new class will be enrolled in the Autumn and the present group will take up advanced

Lucky Sergeant

Appoints Two to Police Department



ROY KENNEDY

Two colored men were among the seven who secured appointments as members of the Indianapolis Police department were announced Tuesday by the Board of Public Safety.

The men appointed are: Robert E. Butler, 1822 W. Keystone avenue, and Guy Luster, 1022 North West street. One other applicant under consideration by the board failed to pass the examinations.

The board's action raises the number of colored members of the department, exclusive of civilians, to 19.

Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief;

Doctor, lawyer, Indiana chief . . . That's life, the wise guys say. Just a game of chance—and a bowl of cherries. You never can tell what a guy may get.

It was a game of chance for Roy Kennedy last Tuesday. Chief "Mike" Morrissey desired to fill a vacancy in his department. Three men were eligible: Roy Kennedy, Thomas Hopson, and Plez Jones. It was decided to draw peices from a hat. Five of the pieces was written "patrolman". In the first draw, all three drew "patrolman". When they drew again Kennedy got the one marked "detective sergeant".

On the chief's recommendation, the board of safety made the promotion. Kennedy has held the rank before.

RETIRED POLICE OFFICER, WITH LONGEST SERVICE RECORD, FETED BY CITIZENS, OFFICIALS

Termination of a record of fifty-one years of service in the police department of Indianapolis—the longest ever made by a local police officer—was made the occasion of one of the warmest celebrations in the city's history, at the Walker Coffee Pot last Monday.

Despite the severity of a heat

wave that sent the thermometer skyrocketing to new heights, city officials and members of the police department from the top ranks down, leading figures in business, professional and religious circles both colored and white, attended the ceremony in honor of Officer Joshua Spears, recently retired.

Presented With Gold Badge

Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan presented Spears gold badge embellished with a large diamond, and an arm chair, gifts from members of the police force. "We are happy to note", said the mayor in presenting the tokens, "that you have served the people of this city so loyally, so kindly, and with such devotion for so long a time. You are one of that splendid group of men who have made the Indianapolis police force one of the best and finest in the country."

F. B. Ransom, master of ceremonies, characterized the city's chief executive, chief of police and members of the police department, both colored and white as the best in the nation. Other speakers who warmly praised the fine record of Spears were: Charles R. Meyers, president of the board of safety; Michael Morrissey, chief of police; Captains Otto Pettit, John Mullins, Lewis Johnson, Ed Helm; Sergeants Walter White (next oldest man to Spears in point of service), Jack O'Neil.

Other speakers were: Dr. Theodore Cable, Dr. L. A. Lewis, Dr. M. D. Batties, Willis Kersey, R. L. Bailey, Henry Flemming, Father O'Brien, Rev. Robert Skelton, Rev. M. A. Talley and Herbert Willis.

Arrangements Committee

The committee on arrangements included Detective Sergeants, Ferdinand Holt, George Sneed, Claude White and Hopson.

Capt. Ed. Helm, prominent among those whose activities assured activities of the affair, credited Chief Morrissey with the suggestion that resulted in today's affair.

Among those present were: Albert Schlenskeer, secretary to Chief Morrissey; Capt. Everson, Lieut. Tooley, Rodocker; Troutman, Scanlan, Patrolmen Fred Hanley, Glenn, Grandison, Coleman Heaters Brown; Detective Sergeants, Kennedy, Sneed, White and Holt.

The fire department was represented by Roy Howard.

Others who attended included:

Rev. M. A. Talley, Walter Ewing, Norman Riley, Arthur Payne, Herbert Willis, Dr. Homer Wales, Bonus Temple, Rev. Robert Skelton, Elwood Knox, Chris Fisher.

Mr. Spears joined the police department in 1883 and was retired July 1. He was born in Kentucky in 1858. He is married, has one son, and lives at 468 West Fall Creek Parkway.

Seeks Another "Job"

"Of course I'm very happy", said the aged though still an active officer, a bit wistfully after the reception Monday. "But it all seems so strange, my not having anything to do. I haven't decided yet what my plans for the future will be. I'll adjust myself, though soon." After fifty-one years of work in one line, it's not so easy to turn to something else.

"Well," replied one of his old friends, "you remember when you first considered the job, I told you it probably would not be permanent."

CITY HONORS RETIRING OFFICER



At the end of the trail, fifty-one years of loyal service as police officer, Joshua Spears, 76, found innumerable friends, city officials and his colleagues in the police department most cordial and sincere in their praise of his remarkable and enviable record. "Josh" Spears was loved by everyone. He is said to have been one of the kindest and most loyal officers the city has ever had. In the picture are shown, Mayor Sullivan presenting Mr. Spears a solid gold badge with a large

the arm chair in which he is sitting, as tokens of appreciation from his colleagues. Others (left to right) are Chief Michael Morrissey, young dynamic chief of police who was responsible for the testimonials; Charles Meyers, president of the Board of safety; Capt. Ed. Helm, a big favorite among the colored citizens, F. B. Ransom, peerless master of ceremonies, and Capt. Scanlan.

Brave Guard



EDWARD B. RANSOM

Of Topeka, a Kansas state officer, guard at tower post No. 3. The other who was chosen from among their three guards, all white, were hundreds of other state employees to found negligent of duty by the guard the mansion of Governor Alfboard.

Lansing, Kas. — James L. Bower, the only Negro guard at the Lansing state prison, was one of the two guards comended for their action in trying to prevent the recent break in a report made by the state board of administration at the end of its investigation last Saturday.

hip and penetrating his abdomen.

# NEGRO GUARD PRAISED IN PRISON BREAK

*The Case*  
James L. Bower One of Two Men Commended For Action  
*Kansas City Mo.*

LANSING, Kas. — James L. Bower, the only Negro guard at the Lansing state prison, was one of the two guards comended for their action in trying to prevent the recent break in a report made by the state board of administration at the end of its investigation last Saturday.

The other guard whose action was praised was Al Hicks, white,

guard at tower post No. 3. The other three guards, all white, were found negligent of duty by the

## Guards' Action Faulty

Andrew Drennon, guard at post No. 3, did no shooting when the convicts were escaping, the board found. Clyde Deer, on duty at the cell house, was censored for making no resistance when threatened by Clark and Brady, leaders of the break, and allowing the convicts to lock him in a cell. The board recommended that both Deer and Drennon be dismissed.

Eugene Vader, on duty at post No. 5, who became panic stricken and threw his gun over the wall, resigned from the guard force before the board began its investigation. The investigators recommended that his resignation be accepted.

## Praise Bower, Hicks

The board's investigation proved that Bower and Hicks did all they could to prevent the break. Dr. James M. Scott, vice-chairman of the board, said that the evidence proved that these two guards opened fire on the escaping convicts and that the testimony of the captured prisoners upheld this. A watch chain of Fred Cody, one of those captured, was clipped off by one of the bullets and another bullet went through a sweater worn by Charles McArthur, another of the desperadoes.

The board reported to Governor Alf M. Landon that Warden Lacey Simpson was negligent of duty and that Deputy Warden A. J. Graham be demoted to captain of the guard

and that Ed Merriweather, captain of the guard, be demoted to regular duty.

## Negro Patrolman Escapes Injury; Partner Wounded

ATCHISON.—Patrolman Ira Monroe, a member of the police force here for many years, escaped injury in a gun battle between officers and a bandit early Monday, Jan. 29. His partner, Officer Ed Russel, white, was shot and seriously wounded.

The two officers discovered the bandit, yet unidentified, in the act of robbing a filling station. He had "jimmied" a window and was entering the station when the patrolmen approached. Seeing the officers, the robber fired four shots, one of the bullets striking Russel in his

## Appoint Negro to Police Force in Lexington, Ky.

LEXINGTON, KY. (AP)—Lexington has a Negro officer of the law, the first in 45 years. Peter Postelle, well known in civic, political and musical circles in Kentucky, has been appointed a policeman here. He works from a well appointed sub-station located at Second and Campbell Streets.

This community while liberal, with Negroes serving as jurors, constables, and members of the board of education did not in recent years permit the naming of a policeman.

## Policemen and Firemen-1934

Michigan.  
6

## DETROIT COPPER SOLVES CRIMES WHICH BAFFLED

and two children. Sergeant of Detectives William Fuller and Edward White arrested Cherry, who admitted that he was with Lightsy when the latter allegedly shot and killed Martha Kangas, a white maid, in a hold-up, and William Kraft, the beer garden owner, who was shot when he resisted.

The two murders happened less than two weeks apart. Lightsy was a taxicab driver with a police record. Cherry and Spivey also have police records.

## Murders of Two Whites Cleared by Apprehending Men.

## POLICE ARREST THREE SUSPECTS

## Confession Secured, They Report.

By RUSSELL J. COWANS

DETROIT—Pounding a beat for eight hours and then spending the other time solving murders, has vaulted Patrolman William W. Simmons into the calcium of public acclaim and has cleared up some of the most baffling cases confronting the local police department.

A few days ago, this towering and unassuming patrolman walked into the homicide squad room at police headquarters and told the inspector that he knew who the murderer of Martha Kangas and William Kraft, both white, was.

He gave the inspector the name and number of a taxicab driver.

As a result of Simmons's tip, Joseph Lightsy, 26, self-confessed murderer of two persons, was arrested Wednesday. The following day his two alleged accomplices, William Cherry, 19, and James Spivey, 21, were arrested and identified as participants in a long list of crimes.

The solution of the Kangas and Kraft murders was the twelfth for Patrolman Simmons, who is attached to the Bethune Station.

During the four years he has been a member of the police department he has cleared up some cases of long standing, just because of his hobby of doing a little sleuthing after regular hours.

### Friends Give Tips

Simmons, who arrested James Spivey the day after Lightsy was arrested, stated that he has a large number of friends who keep him informed about what is going on. During his off-duty hours he is busy keeping up the contact with those friends.

He is married and lives at 604 E. Philadelphia Street, with his wife

# Policemen and Firemen-1934

Missouri.

## Expert Pistol Shot



JOHN W. BURNS

Uniformed officer on the police force of Kansas City, Mo., who won a gold medal, the highest award, and the title of ~~Expert~~ pistol shot in the pistol shooting contest of the police department which ended, Wednesday. All officers on the force took part in the contest. Burns' record topped them all. Out of 200 shots, he hit the bull's eye 187 times. Burns, who lives at 1305 Washington Street, Westport, has made 60 arrests since he joined the police force in March, 1934. L. Walker another Negro officer, won a silver medal for second place in the contest. He hit the target 153 out of 200 times. — Photo by Stiger. — Kansas City, Mo.. The Call

# Policemen and Firemen -1934

New Jersey

## PROMOTED



HOWARD E. HARRIS

One of the six race cops promoted in Atlantic City, N. J. by Director Cuthbert. Harris has been in the service 19 years.

### 3 PASS NEW YORK POLICE EXAMS

*Amsterdam News*  
NEW YORK. (ANP)—In the recent physical examinations held by the police department for recruits, Charles Jones, better known as Chuck and Indian Jones when he played at New York University, passed with the extremely high mark of 98 per cent. James Leonard, outfielder for the Penn Red Caps and formerly end on Al White's pro football team, made the grade with a 96. Leonard tips the beams at 200 even and is a fine physical specimen. Another member of the same football team, L. A. Livingston, a tackle who weighed 205 pounds, and also an outfielder for the Penn Red Caps, was disqualified in the first test, but an appeal won him another hearing and in the final examination, Livingston scored 86 per cent. Livingston is a product of Wiley University in Texas.

NEW YORK SUN

### MAY 24 1934 NEGRO FIRE CAPTAIN

Lieut. Williams First of Race to Win Rank.

Wesley Williams, Negro lieutenant attached to Engine 55 at 363 Broome street, will be the first of his race to be advanced to the rank of captain, it was announced today by Fire Commissioner John J. McElligott. The promotion will take place on June 1. Four white men will be advanced to the rank of company commanders with Williams.

Williams was the first Negro to reach the grade of lieutenant. Before entering the department he was a letter carrier. He was appointed a fireman on January 10, 1919, and assigned to Engine 55, where he has remained continuously. The Negro fire fighter is 5 feet 8½ inches in height and weighs 165 pounds.

The big gap in the rank of Battalion Chief which has been felt throughout the Fire Department will be partly filled on June 1. Five Captains were promoted to that rank. At the present time the department has been operating without the services of

more than twelve battalion officers. James E. Finegan, president of the Civil Service Commission today praised the high rating that Williams received in his examination both as regards physical standards and mental tests. "He is one of the most popular men in the fire-fighting force of the city," said Mr. Finegan, "and is highly respected by rank and file."

FIRST FIRE CAPTAIN



*New York*  
Lieut. WESLEY WILLIAMS who this week will be promoted to the rank of captain in the Fire Department. Before entering the department, Mr. Williams was a letter carrier. Appointed to the Fire Department on January 10, 1919, he was assigned to Engine Company 55, at 363 Broome street, where he remained.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

### JUN 1 1934 COLORED FIREMAN BECOMES CAPTAIN

Fire Lieut. Wesley Williams of Engine Company 55, the only colored fireman in the department, yesterday was among the five lieutenants promoted to the rank of captain. Commissioner McElligott, in announcing the promotions, singled Williams out as "a splendid fireman and a man of finest character."

The ceremony was held in the Commissioner's office.

### BATTLE GIVEN HIGHER RATING

*Amsterdam News*  
Acting Lieutenant Is Made Detective of First Grade

What is said to be a precedent in the Police Department was established Monday, when Acting-Lieut. Samuel Jesse Battle was promoted by Commissioner O'Ryan to first grade detective with a salary increase of \$500. Battle becomes, technically, the first uniformed man to be made a first grade sleuth without coming through the ranks of the third and second grade men.

From a patrolman, he became a sergeant in the uniformed ranks at a salary of \$3,500 per year. Before his sergeant's uniform had been delivered by the tailor, he was shifted to special duty with the Thirty-second squad of detectives. His only superior on the squad was a detective-lieutenant in charge. Battle was technically the next in command.

His next assignment made him an acting lieutenant in charge of a gun patrol car with the Sixth Division. His pay was not increased, as he has to pass the examination for lieutenant to be eligible for the \$4,000, which goes with the rank. But first grade detectives get the same as lieutenants in uniform, and detectives may be promoted at the discretion of the Police Commissioner. Battle will continue as an acting lieutenant with the gun squad.

### INSPECTOR IS MADE CAPTAIN

*Amsterdam News*  
Thos. Leahy Reduced by O'Ryan Because of "Conditions"

Inspector Thomas Leahy of the Sixth Division was reduced to the rank of captain Wednesday by the

order of Police Commissioner O'Ryan. The inspector, whose headquarters were located in the West 123d street station, had served in the district as a deputy and acting inspector for three years preceding his elevation in 1932.

*New York, N.Y.*  
In reducing Inspector Leahy, Commissioner O'Ryan stated that he had taken the action because conditions in the official's "jurisdiction have been unsatisfactory for some time and have not improved." At the same time, he also reduced Inspector Daniel A. Kerr of the Second Division. Under Inspector Leahy there have been many complaints of police brutality in the Sixth Division, most of them in the Twenty-eighth Precinct, in which his headquarters were located. Although the inspector received most complaints courteously, in contrast to his predecessors, officers were seldom punished for their alleged actions.

The most recent case which attracted city-wide attention was the arraignment of Patrolmen Charles Brown and Joseph Pappace on charges of brutality growing out of the breaking up of a Scottsboro demonstration on Lenox avenue on March 17. The two officers were later given a public trial at police headquarters and the findings of the trial placed before Commissioner O'Ryan. As far as could be ascertained yesterday, the commissioner has not made public his decision in their cases.

*Age*  
Police Commissioner Valentine commended Motorcycle Patrolman Charles Williams for bravery on Tuesday morning when Williams appeared at the "Lineup" with two notorious Bronx bandits whom he trailed and arrested Monday. Patrolman Williams, who has been on the police force for about 10 years, has on several occasions been commended for excellent police work. He was transferred to the Motorcycle Squad under Police Commissioner Mulrooney.

### NYACK, N. Y. Now Has Negro Policeman

*Age*  
NYACK, N. Y.—Negro citizens of his town proudly salute Leon Harris, who has recently been appointed a special uniformed patrolman.

### Four Negro Corporals Named Last Week In N. Y. Police Dept.

*Age*  
Four Negro policemen attached to the West 135th street police station were named corporals this week in compliance with a general order sent to all precinct commanders by Police Commissioner

O'Ryan to designate patrolmen to the higher ranks. They will receive no extra pay. The men will wear two chevrons and will assume charge at all cases where the radio patrol answers until superior officers relieve them. Previously when cars answered a radio alarm, it was often five minutes before a sergeant or officer of higher rank appeared on the scene and no one was in command for that period. Now, however, on every alarm a corporal will assume command until relieved.

The four Negro corporals are Officers Emanuel Howard, Hayward Beverly, Earl Redmond and Arthur L. Fleming. Four white officers from the 32nd Precinct were also named at the same time. They are: Charles Weiler, Albert J. Kattenhorn, Charles Kraus and Dominick Langan.

### Patrolman Chas. Williams Commended by Police Head

*Age*  
Police Commissioner Valentine commended Motorcycle Patrolman Charles Williams for bravery on Tuesday morning when Williams appeared at the "Lineup" with two notorious Bronx bandits whom he trailed and arrested Monday. Patrolman Williams, who has been on the police force for about 10 years, has on several occasions been commended for excellent police work. He was transferred to the Motorcycle Squad under Police Commissioner Mulrooney.

# 15 Harlem Policemen Listed On Honor Roll Of Police Department

Fifteen policemen, officers, and detectives working in the Harlem area won official recognition for unusual services along with 258 others in one of the largest lists ever issued by the department. Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine announced the roll on Wednesday.

The highest award, "Honorable Mention" went to 13 policemen, among whom was Patrolman Charles A. Barts of the West 135th street police station who killed a murderer in a fight on a roof.

"Commendations" were given to Lieutenant Henry P. Devlin, Detectives John J. O'Brien and John E. Roberts, Patrolmen James J. Russell, William M. Murphy, Joseph J. Papace, all of the 28th Precinct, and Harry T. Sharpe of the 2nd Precinct, also Motorcycle Patrolman Charles E. Williams.

"Excellent Police Duty" recognitions went to Detectives Peter A. Naton, Arthur M. O'Connor and Galdwell A. Knowles of the 28th Precinct, David R. Walker of the 32nd Squad and Omer O. Ames of the 6th Division.

NEW YORK AMERICAN

DEC 31 1934

## 13 SERGEANTS GET NEW RANK AS YEAR ENDS

Valentine to Make Them Lieutenants Today; Geoffrey Shea Promoted to Captain

New Year's Day promotions will be announced this morning by Police Commissioner Valentine. Advancements will be based on the Civil Service list.

Geoffrey P. Shea, acting captain at the Union Market station, will be made a full captain, one of the youngest ever to hold that rank. He joined the force in 1920 and

has two brothers in the department. His father was the late Lieut. Patrick Shea, a detective. Thirteen sergeants will be promoted to lieutenant. Four other lieutenantcies will be filled by Jan. 7 when the eligible list expires.

### Harlem Wants Him

Harlem Negroes have been urging the elevation of Sergt. Samuel J. Battle, but it is believed he will not be reached because of his place on the list.

Following is the list of those promoted:

Sergeant Harry J. W. Schmidt, Traffic Pct.; Sergeant Alexander Weintraub, 15th Precinct; Sergeant Thomas E. O'Neil, 30th Pct.; Sergeant Charles F. Sellmann, Motor Transport, Maintenance Division; Sergeant Bernard E. Clarke, 2nd Pct.; Acting Lieutenant George J. Andrews, Jr., Vehicular Homicide Squad, Manhattan. Also Sergeant Patrick Burke, Traffic G; Sergeant Francis McCarthy, 87th Pct; Sergeant Edward J. Bannan, 8th Pct; Sgt. James B. MacKelvey, Chief Inspector's Office; Sergeant William A. Dennin, 17th Div.; Sergeant Joseph E. McCullough, 120th Pct.

Assistant Chief Inspector John J. Sullivan, of the detective division, announced 16 transfer to take effect tomorrow. Acting Capt. James C. Pritchard will go from Brooklyn headquarters to Harlem. Detective Fred L. Wilson will be sent from Manhattan headquarters to Glendale.

## A BRAVE OFFICER



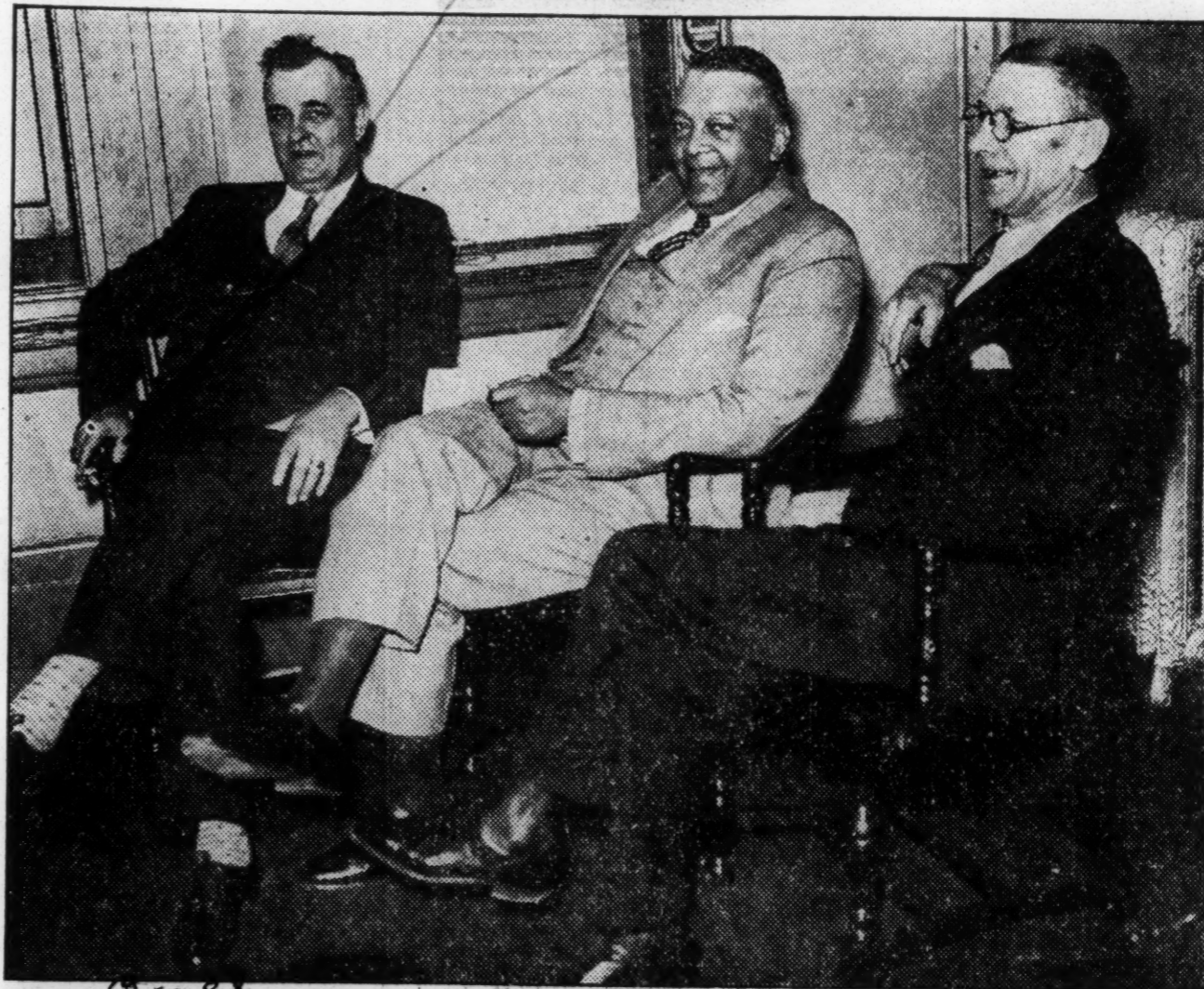
the Phillipines. His father, the Hon. R. C. H. Payne of Hinton, W. Va., was Consul to St. Thomas, Danish West Indies 14 years, and later was U. S. Judge there from 1917 until he died, nearly eight years later. His son, "Charlie" despite his meritorious service began in the ranks here and will die in almost the same condition unless retired. It must be maddening for him to see the number of his fellow officers who have climbed the heights and to realize that only a shade of difference in color kept him from moving onward and upward.

—DABNEY.

*The Union*  
Charles H. Payne became a member of the Cincinnati Police Department May 2nd, 1904. For over thirty years he has stood the wear and tear of service, ever ready to sacrifice his life for duty. Not many years ago, two desperate white burglars robbed the shop of John S. Bock, then the leading merchant tailor of Avondale, Payne captured them both single handed and they were sent to the penitentiary. A singular coincidence was the finding in their loot, a suit of clothes that Bock had just made for W. P. Dabney, who was then City Paymaster. A few years later he conquered and killed a gigantic Great Dane dog weighing 227 pounds. That animal had gone mad, drove from the house its owner. The Police Department sent Payne, who went in the house, was attacked, and killed the ferocious animal.

Officer Payne was a Sergeant in the Spanish-American war and also 1st Sergeant, Co. F, 49th Infantry in

## They Brought Richetti Here



These three United States deputy marshalls from Cleveland, one a Negro, accompanied Adam Richetti, companion of Pretty Boy Floyd, from Lisboy, Ohio, to Kansas City for the grand jury investigation of the Union station massacre.

Seated in the sheriff's office, they are, left to right, A. T. McGowan,

white, Dwight R. Williams and John Luses, white. Williams was in charge of the officials who brought the prisoner here.

A civil engineer, and a member of the state board of trustees of Wilberforce university. Williams is one of the leading citizens of Ohio. He has been on the police force for

a year and a half. Before that time he was engaged in the real estate business and once was employed in the construction department of the city of Cleveland. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois. His son, John H. Williams, is a student at Wilberforce. —Photo courtesy Kansas City Star.

# Patrolman Seeks To Be Police Chief!

PATROLMAN JOHN E. TONEY, NEGRO, 2641 ALMS PLACE, ASSIGNED TO THE WALNUT HILLS STATION, FILED HIS APPLICATION FOR THE EXAMINATION OF POLICE CHIEF, LATE MONDAY.—Times-Star, Dec. 3, 1934

"Nothing venture, nothing gain,"  
Cried Tony to the boys,  
Give me your prayers—  
And if I'm the selection,  
Despite my dark complexion,  
Your days will be full of joys.

For I know the dope,  
As well as "Cope",  
Who reigned as chief so long,  
And if I his mantle get,  
White folk will be all wet,  
And "Life will be one grand, sweet song."

Many, many months ago, we christened "Tony" "the Black Chief of Police"! We may not be the seventh son of a seventh son, but we have often attained success as a prophet. In making "Tony" "the Black Chief of Police," we anticipated excessively the possibility of his becoming, at some time, "the White Chief of Police!" Evidently he had enough confidence in us to try to "make the dream come true," for he has shielded his castor in the ring in an effort to succeed Chief Copeland, whose pet he was in all the years, through storm as well as sunshine—and "Tony" has had some storms.

"The Black Chief of Police," if made "The White Chief of Police," will bring to this city such marvelous glory as never bedazzled its dreams in its wildest moments of characteristic idealization and will make this Metropolis in truth, "the best governed city in America," a

1. "I have set my life upon a cast,  
And I will stand the hazard of the die." (dice).

2. "He either fears his fate too much,

Or his deserts are small,  
That dare not put it to the touch,  
To gain or lose it all."

Many of the "gang" downtown are praying that he will win. "There's a method in their madness." As chief, he will be armed with a pen instead of the club that has made him glory and his victims gory. In fancy, we already hear his victorious voice as he proudly ascends the throne in the bosom, or rather basement, of City Hall, and so we extend congratulations now and take this opportunity like the thief upon the cross, to pray: "Lord, remember me when thou cometh into thy kingdom."

Dabney.

paradise for the good, a hell for the bad. "Tony" as a club swinger, Pompey-like, "could brook no equal," "Caesarlike," endure no superior." Those who know him realize that, if appointed, he will more than fill the chair of Copeland and his head will crowd to fullest capacity the cap that perched so proudly for many years upon the intellectual dome of our international veteran and ruler of the Queen City's "Finest."

In answer to certain of our colored citizens, filled with envy, jealousy, spleen, who are asking why "Tony" did not first try for lesser honors such as sergeant, etc., we are glad to say, "Tony is no piker," no "tinpar sport." He is game enough always to aspire to the positions for which he is so eminently qualified, AND WHO KNOWS BETTER THAN HE, WHAT HE WANTS, WHAT HE CAN BEST DO? In taking a chance, his mottoes have ever been:

# CITY COPPERS PLAN FOR ANNUAL POLICEMEN

2-4-34 2-3-34



Black Dispatch - Oklahoma City

Don't let 'em fool you. A cop is a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. This picture shows he has a dual personality. Insets show how Oklahoma City policemen frown on their beats. The other view shows how they can smile when they select partners for the annual policemen's ball to be staged at the Ritz Ballroom February 22, 9 p. m. to 2 a. m.

No, this is no trick photograph. The Black Dispatch photographer actually caught the coppers just as they were getting into the group insurance fund. The policeman's wife has a good out for insurance premiums on the second annual policemen's dance will be a scream just as the five young ladies in the picture indicate. There'll be a floor show and everything. Music will be furnished by the famous Edward Christian "Harlem Devils."

Reading from left to right in the picture, front row: Officer William Grissom, Mrs. Leander Davis, Officer E. E. Jones, Miss Mae Thelma Waldrop, Officer Henry McMullen, Miss Ethel Pennyson. In rear, left

to right: Miss Elizabeth Lenty, Officer William Moore, Miss Helen Gormandy.

# MORGAN "GRAD" PHILLY TURNKEY

## 20 YRS. A COP

*Adolphus Ennis to Retire*  
**Adolphus Ennis to Retire  
Colorful Career on Force.**

### SEES CRIME ON DECREASE

### But Thinks Younger Folk Face Crisis.



TURNKEY ADOLPHUS ENNIS

PHILADELPHIA — The completion of 20 years of active service in the police department has earned for Turnkey Adolphus Ennis, veteran officer and lodge man, the right to retire with honors and emoluments, it was announced this week.

Officer Ennis, who was a soldier in the famous Tenth Cavalry, came originally from Annapolis, Md., is a 32nd degree Mason and is Brigadier-General of Pennsylvania Elks.

**Morgan Student**

Before leaving Maryland he was a student at Morgan College in the

early days of that institution and is well known in Baltimore because of his political activities during the days of the late Harry Cummings. He recalls being a member of the McKinley Republican Club.

He was also once a Sunday school superintendent at Sharp Street M.E. Church.

#### Colorful Career

Ennis has had a colorful career on the local force. In recounting some of his experiences he declared his most thrilling experience to be the capture of one of three dangerous bandits during the Butler administration.

On that occasion he "got his man" after he himself had been shot in the chest. Too engrossed to feel his own wound he was shooting it out, when he hit the bandit on the hand, causing him to drop his gun.

The prisoner was arrested and placed in jail on May 10, 1925 and escaped the following May.

#### Crime Decreasing

Officer Ennis believes that crime as a whole is on the decrease, or was up until prohibition. This "Noble Experiment" he said, brought with it a wave of general lawlessness, especially among the respectable younger people.

Asked if the young men and women of today are more lawless than in former times, he stated that from his observations there is decidedly more of a tendency towards lack of respect for law on the part of young men and women.

This is not especially true of colored young men and women, but of all young men and women. They have more assertive and radical ideas and act with more abandon. "I have seen much of the actions of young people in public dance halls, and I am convinced that the present generation is making a crisis for the group," he said.

#### Find No Difficulty

The officer finds no more difficulty in policing one race than another, he said. Sometimes there have been colored prisoners who did not want me to arrest them for racial reasons. There have been whites to do the same thing. "I knew how to handle both cases," he said laughingly.

Mr. Ennis married a Baltimore girl, the former Miss Cornelia Johnson. He may leave the service in September.

At the regular lineup Monday morning members of the police department at 41st Police District presented Officer Simms with a gold rimmed leather purse containing \$30 in cash.

On the purse is engraved the following:

ADOLPHUS ENNIS

20 Years' Police Service

Presented by

Members of the 41st Police District

Presented Monday, May 21

## First In Philadelphia County



Philadelphia County, Pa. got its first colored detective recently when George Wilmer, shown at right, was sponsored for the position by Magistrate Louis Hammon, shown at left, who is shown congratulating him. Wilmer is an active Republican leader.

# PICK LADD-RYAN TO LEAD FORCES IN WORTHY MOVE

*Informers*  
Houston.—The first annual ball to be given by the Negro police officers of this city, for the benefit of the policemen's burial fund, will be staged at the *Prigim* auditorium, West Dallas at Bagby, Saturday night, March 17, 1934, according to a statement issued this week by Officer James A. Ladd, chairman of the committee in charge of plans and arrangements for the affair.

## For Burial Fund

Officers Ladd emphasized the fact that this was not just another dance. He said that the entertainment was strictly one for the benefit of the policemen's burial fund, which is administered alike for the benefit of all the police officers of the city, without regard to race or color. In commenting upon the burial fund Officer Ladd pointed out the fact that when Ned Jones, a former policeman, died in Houston a few years ago, the sum of \$1,000 was paid to his survivors from this burial fund.

## Ryan Heads Citizens Committee

Prof. James D. Ryan, principal of Jack Yates High School and pioneer Houston business man and respected citizen, has been chosen as head of the citizens committee which is working in cooperation with the Negro officers in this effort to raise funds to augment the burial fund, it was learned. Prof. Ryan has not as yet announced his full committee, but it was stated that every group in the city would be fully represented and that Prof. Ryan would announce the full personnel of his committee in a day or two.

## Officers Head Other Committees

Chairman Ladd disclosed that he had appointed several other committees, the personnel of which would probably be added to when Prof. Ryan completes his citizens committee. Heading these committees were police officers as follows: Publicity and advertising, Officer Henry Breed; entertainment, Officer Dave Burney; finance and tickets, Officer James A. Ladd; it was also pointed out that Officer H. Clay is serving with Officer Breed in planning the publicity and advertising, while Officer James Thompson is serving with Officer Burney on the entertainment committee; Officer Wm. Stevenson is secretary of the committee.

## Expects to Book Don Albert

When questioned about the music for the entertainment Officer Ladd stated that he was in communication with Don Albert and his famous Plantation Garden orchestra from San Antonio, and that he could assure everybody that the music would be the very best to be obtained in the entire Southwest.

## Huge Crowd Expected

Officer Ladd added that a huge crowd was expected. Already five thousand tickets for adults have been printed and distributed among various ticket sellers and they are going fine, according to Officer Ladd.

## Student Tickets

Special student tickets to the number of two thousand are in the hands of Citizens Chairman James D. Ryan for distribution among the students of the city, and special rates on these tickets have been provided, Prof. Ryan advised.

# NEGRO DETECTIVE INJURED CHASING AUTOMOBILE THIEF



JAMES THOMPSON

While chasing an automobile prowler Monday night in the 1000 block on Prairie, James ("Ditty") Thompson, colored detective, was seriously injured in his left ankle when his pistol fell from his holster and discharged.

Thompson and his partner, Detective William M. Stevenson, were

cruising down Prairie when they observed a Negro ransacking a parked car.

In reporting the accident Detective Stevenson said: "We drew alongside and the prowler saw us and leaped from the car with his arms full of sacks of tomatoes and eggs. He dashed up Prairie Avenue and we followed on foot. Thompson's gun dropped to the sidewalk and discharged."

The injury to Detective Thompson's foot is of such a serious nature that attending physicians that it might necessitate amputation of his foot, although they stated that they would resort to such an operation only as a last resort.

Detective Thompson, a resident of Houston for many years, is one of the most popular and efficient police officers in the city.

## Negro Detectives

Better results are always secured when Negroes have a real hand in affairs with which they are concerned. Negroes in Beaumont make a better record in the community chest drive than Houston Negroes simply and only because Negroes are given a respectful opportunity to manage their end of it. Dallas Negroes have a more praiseworthy social welfare program than Negroes of other cities of the state for no other reason than that Dallas is far-sighted enough to give to the Negro community a more just share in the management of their own social problems.

Law enforcement is no exception to this rule. The big Houston pre-Christmas jewelry robbery was solved quickly and effectively largely because Houston has on its police force some courageous and upstanding Negro detectives. Two of these detectives, Officers Clay and Stevenson, were the mainspring of that jewelry roundup. Even their white superior officer was fair enough to give them the credit for it.

Likewise, when Negroes begin to sit on petit juries in Texas, in cases where Negroes are guilty of serious crimes against Negroes, the day of placing little value upon the lives and properties of Negroes when invaded by criminals will soon begin to come to an end. The Informer congratulates Houston's Negro detectives upon their good work.

Police men and Firemen-1934

Virginia

**RICHMOND, VA.**  
**NEWS LEADER**

**APR 25 1934**

## **NEGRO MATRON IN COURT IS URGED**

**Richmond Democratic  
League Pushing Pro-  
posal Before Council.**

Letters are being sent by the Richmond Democratic League, an organization of Negro voters, to all councilmen and aldermen of the city, urging them to support a measure now before council, sponsored by Councilman W. C. Carpenter, calling for the appointment of a Negro matron to serve Negro women who are brought into the police court.

Roscoe C. Jackson, president of the league, stated in a letter to the city fathers that this bill has the united support of the 1,400 Negro voters in Richmond and that several councilmen have promised to give it their support.

He stated that police officers are now assigned to look after the Negro women and it would be much better for the Negro women to have a Negro matron to serve them.